This week in techniques

Approach	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Chemistry			
Using metrics other than IC_{50} to assess cancer drug response	An analysis of cellular responses to cancer drugs suggests parameters other than potency should be considered when evaluating their efficacy. A multiparametric analysis of 64 cancer compounds in 53 breast cancer cell lines followed by single-cell analysis found variations in dose-response curves that suggest it could be useful to evaluate compounds using parameters other than IC_{50} measurements. These parameters include Hill slope (HS) and maximum effect (E_{max}) values. Next steps include replicating the findings in primary, patient-derived tumor cells and further studying the molecular mechanisms that underlie the observations.	Unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Fallahi-Sichani, M. <i>et al. Nat. Chem. Biol.</i> ; published online Sept. 8, 2013; doi:10.1038/nchembio.1337 Contact: Peter K. Sorger, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass. e-mail: peter_sorger@hms.harvard.edu
	<i>SciBX</i> 6(38); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1074 Published online Oct. 3, 2013		